

Proclamation

2006 marks the centennial anniversary of the Izumo Taishakyo Mission of Hawai`i. It is one of the few Shinto Shrines in the United States. Its picturesque A-frame structure was inspired by Shimane Ken's classical Japanese shrine Taisha Machi, and was created by Japanese immigrants, Architect Hego Fuchino and master carpenter Ishisaburo Takata.

The Shinto religion is an indigenous Japanese faith that dates back more than 2,000 years. It teaches that gods, or *kami*, are found in all living things and emphasizes the need to be in harmony with all nature.

As the first Head Priest of the Hawai'i Izumo Taisha, The Reverend Katsuyoshi Miyao arrived in Honolulu with his wife, Isoko, on August 26, 1906. The first Hawai'i Izumo Taisha was a converted room. The Shrine moved to several other locations, before being built at its current site.

Upon his death in 1935, his son, Bishop Shigemaru Miyao, succeeded the Reverend and served as its head priest for more than 60 years. Reverend Daiya Amano, who is only the third priest, continues to serve the people of the mission.

Okuninushi No Kami, the main god of the shrine, oversees good health, love, happiness, wealth and relationships. Visitors to the Izumo Taishakyo Mission of Hawai'i experience a cleansing ritual and often come to the shrine seeking blessings for significant events in their lives. Izumo Taishakyo Mission of Hawai'i is home to the Hiroshima Peace Bell, which was presented to the people of Honolulu by the Prefecture of Hiroshima as a symbol of peace and harmony between sister cities.

On October 8, 2006, members and guests will gather at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Izumo Taishakyo Mission of Hawai`i.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2006, as

IZUMO TAISHAKYO MISSION OF HAWAI'I DAY

in Hawai'i, and congratulate them for their commitment and dedication in sharing the riches of the Shinto faith with many generations of our island residents.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourth day of October 2006.

Linda Lingle

Governor, State of Hawai'i

James R. "Duke" Aiona, J

Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i